



Town of Spencer
Office of the Board of Selectmen
&
Town Administrator

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Information Regarding Spencer's Comprehensive Roads Project

Dear Residents of Spencer,

Over the past 6 months I have been working closely with the Board of Selectmen, The Financial Management Planning Committee, Staff, and Consultants to evaluate our road conditions, the cost of repairing, and the potential impacts to tax payers if additional Tax Levy were to be requested to fund a Comprehensive Roads Project. Many of you have taken the time to attend the 5 public hearings we held or have reached out to me via email, letter, or pulled me aside in Town Hall. We are grateful for the interest and more grateful for the suggestions, the critiques and the feedback provided, which have helped guide the decision by the Board of Selectmen to seek approval of a \$19 million borrowing request at the May 5th Town Meeting and a request for a Debt Exclusion Override of the Tax Levy at the ballot on the May 10th Annual Election.

Enclosed in this week's New Leader you will find the Spring Newsletter and a Roads Informational Flier designed to answer some of the Frequently Asked Questions and provide some key clarification points. When going to the ballot and attending the Town Meeting, voters and tax payers should note the following key facts:

- Our roads have been evaluated as one of the overall worst ranked for towns that evaluate roads based on a Pavement Conditions Index (PCI).
- Several funding alternatives were presented and their benefits and downfalls discussed.
- A temporary override (Debt Exclusion) was chosen instead of a permanent override.
- Tax Bill Impacts will not begin until after July 1, 2017 when other projects come off the tax levy.
- A proposed list of roads, their project type and average tax bill impact are shown on the flier.

In an effort to give voters and tax payers the most available information on this project to help them make an informed decision, in addition to holding meetings and written materials, we also provided critical information on our project webpage at:

http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA_Bcomm/FinancialManagement/index.

Many people have written to me or to the Editor about their opinions either in favor or against this project. We ask that in addition to these, that you take advantage of the information that we have made available to you and please email me at agaudette@spencerma.gov if you should have any questions related to this project. I will be happy to answer each and every one, as we have done at our meetings or in other format to date.

Adam Gaudette
Town Administrator